REMARKS

This amendment is being filed concurrently with a Request for Continued Examination. Claims 1-20 have been cancelled, and Claims 21-35 have been added. Support for the additional claims can be found in at least pages 5-9 of the application and figures 1-6. No new matter is believed to have been added.

Claim 21 relates to a support member configured to be disposed between a first and a second core pole of a rotor. The support member includes a wedge, a plurality of cavities, and radial members. The wedge includes an axially extending wall, a first and a second side wall, a first and second end, and a first and second end wall. The first and second side walls extend radially from and are integrally formed with the axially extending wall, and the first and second end walls are formed at the first and second ends integrally with the axially extending wall and the first and second sidewalls. The plurality of cavities is formed in the wedge between the first and the second ends. The first and second radial members extend axially from and are integrally formed as part of the first and the second end walls, respectively.

Claim 27 relates to a support system that includes the elements of claim 21 and recites, *inter alia*, a first and a second band configured to at least partially surround the first and second radial members, respectively, to secure the wedge to the rotor.

Claim 31 relates to a generator and includes a rotor and a support system. The rotor includes a shaft and a first and a second core pole extending radially from the shaft and defining a space therebetween, each of the first and second core poles having a first and a second end. The support system is disposed between the first and second core poles and includes a wedge, a plurality of cavities, radial members, and bands. The wedge is disposed within the space and includes an axially extending wall, a first and a second side wall, a first and a second end, and a first and a second end wall. The first and second side walls extend radially from and are integrally formed with the axially extending wall, and the first and second end walls are formed at the first and second ends integrally with the axially extending wall and the first and the second side walls. The plurality of cavities is formed within the wedge between the first and the second end walls. The first and second radial members each extend axially from and are integrally formed as part of the first and

the second end walls, respectively, and are configured to extend beyond the first and second core pole ends when the wedge is disposed in the rotor. The first and second bands are at least partially disposed around the first and second radial members, respectively, to secure the wedge to the rotor.

Previously, the Examiner alleged that claims 1-20 were variously rejected in view of U.S. Patent No. 3,008,786 ("Costello"), U.S. Patent No. 6,113,024 ("Pittard"), U.S. Patent No. 6,054,790 ("Kjeer"), and U.S. Patent No. 2,400,576 ("Sigmund"). The Applicants submit that new claims 21-35 are patentable at least over the already-cited art of record.

Costello relates to a dynamoelectric machine construction for maintaining and cooling salient pole windings of a salient pole rotor in a synchronous machine. The machine includes, as shown in FIGs. 1 and 2, a wedge (20) that has two walls that form a v-shaped component and a top stick (21) that is laid over the top of the v-shaped component to act as a third wall. Pittard teaches a v-shaped support wedge positioned between rotor poles. Kjeer relates to a V-block 24 with a preselected shape defining a preselected included angle between a pair of V-block side portions 26, 28. See abstract. The V-block includes an apex end portion 30 at a connection of the pair of side portions 26, 28 and a strut end portion 32. Sigmund relates to a deposition of rubber on the windings of magnetizable cores and teaches the use of a porous wedge 48 for use in a dynamo-electric machine. See col. 3, ll. 9 – 15. However, none of Costello, Pittard, Kjeer, or Signmund alone or in combination teach the features of claims 21-35. Specifically, the references do not teach a wedge, a plurality of cavities, and radial members, where the wedge includes an axially extending wall, a first and a second side wall, a first and second end, and a first and second end wall; the first and second side walls extend radially from and are integrally formed with the axially extending wall, and the first and second end walls are formed at the first and second ends integrally with the axially extending wall and the first and second sidewalls, the plurality of cavities is formed in the wedge between the first and the second ends, and the first and second radial members extend axially from and are integrally formed as part of the first and the second end walls, respectively, as recited in claims 21, 27, and 31. Additionally, none of the

references alone or in combination teaches a first and a second band configured to at least partially surround the first and second radial members, respectively, to secure the wedge to the rotor, as recited in claims 27 and 31. Accordingly, claims 21, 27, and 31 and the claims that depend therefrom are patentable at least over the already-cited art of record.

In view of the foregoing, entry of the amendment is believed proper pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.114, and its entry is respectfully requested.

If for some reason Applicants have not paid a sufficient fee with this submittal, please consider this as authorization to charge Ingrassia, Fisher & Lorenz, Deposit Account No. 50-2091 for any fee which may be due.

Respectfully submitted,

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